IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: Shuji YAMAOKA et al.

Serial Number: Not yet assigned

(§371 of international application No. PCT/JP2003/15289)

Filed: May 31,2005

CIRCUIT PATTERN INSPECTION APPARATUS AND PATTERN For:

INSPECTION METHOD

Attorney Docket Number: 052653

Customer Number: 38834

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 May 31, 2005

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination of this application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.